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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/598,825	09/12/2006	Peter P. Cuevas	QLTIP012	1845
22434	7590	11/30/2007	EXAMINER	
BEYER WEAVER LLP			NGUYEN, VINCENT Q	
P.O. BOX 70250			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
OAKLAND, CA 94612-0250			2858	
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			11/30/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/598,825

Applicant(s)

CUEVAS, PETER P.

Examiner

Vincent Q. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 November 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Goto et al. (2003/0082936 A1) in view of VanDeusen (5,144,098).

With respect to claim 1, Goto et al. discloses a device for use in connection a semiconductor device under test (DUT) having a plurality of leads to electronic test equipment, an interconnect assembly comprising a) a cable (114) including a plurality of wires with at least one wire (Connect to 102) for sensing a signal from a DUT, at least one wire (Connect to 104) for a forcing signal to the DUT, and at least one wire (Connect to 106) for a guarding signal driven by the same electrical potential as the forcing signal, wherein the at least one wire (Connect to 102) for sensing a signal, the at least one wire (Connect to 104) for a forcing signal, and the at least one wire (Connect to 106) for a guarding signal are each separately connectable to the electronic test equipment (It is inherent that the wires of cable 114 can be separately "connectable" to the electronic test); b) a male connector (107) including the plurality of wires, an outer

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metal coating surrounding the plurality of wires (Conductive wires are metal), and an insulating coating around the outer metal coating (Typical to almost every cable because if it is not insulated, the conductors become short circuit), and c) a receptacle connector for receiving the male connector and plurality of wires with corresponding contacts (Figure 2).

In the alternative with respect to the 35 U.S.C 103(a), Goto et al. does not explicitly disclose outer metal coating and an insulating coating.

VanDeusen discloses electrical cable and explicitly discloses metal coating (5) and insulating coating around metal coating (5) (Figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the metal coating and insulating as taught by VanDeusen into the system of Goto et al. because the metal coating and the insulating is the principle of the cable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goto et al. (2003/0082936 A1) in view of Fang et al. (2005/0148218 A1).

With respect to claim 2, Goto et al. discloses every subject matter recited in the claim except for the receptacle connector includes a metal housing.

Fang et al. discloses electrical connector and further discloses the receptacle connector includes a metal housing (Figure 1) to eliminate the noise from connection (Fang et al. para. 05-08).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the receptacle connector including a metal housing as taught by Fang et al. into the system of Goto et al. because the receptacle connector including a metal housing is desirable to eliminate the noise from connection.

With respect to claim 3, Goto et al. discloses the cable and the male connector include a plurality of wires for a forcing signal (Figure 1A).

With respect to claims 4, 5, Goto et al. discloses the receptacle connector is mountable on a printed circuit board (Figure 2) of a test fixture with printed wiring of the printed circuit board connecting contacts of the receptacle connector to a socket of the test fixture.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 11/09/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to Applicant's argument that: "Goto does not disclose a cable including a plurality of wires with at least one wire for sensing a signal from a DUT, at least one wire for a forcing signal to the DUT, and at least one wire for a guarding signal driven the same electrical signal as the forcing signal, wherein the at least one wire for sensing a signal, the at least one wire for a forcing signal, and the at least one wire for a guarding signal are each separately connectable to the electronic test equipment".

Contrarily to Applicant's arguments, Goto discloses cable (114) including a plurality of wires

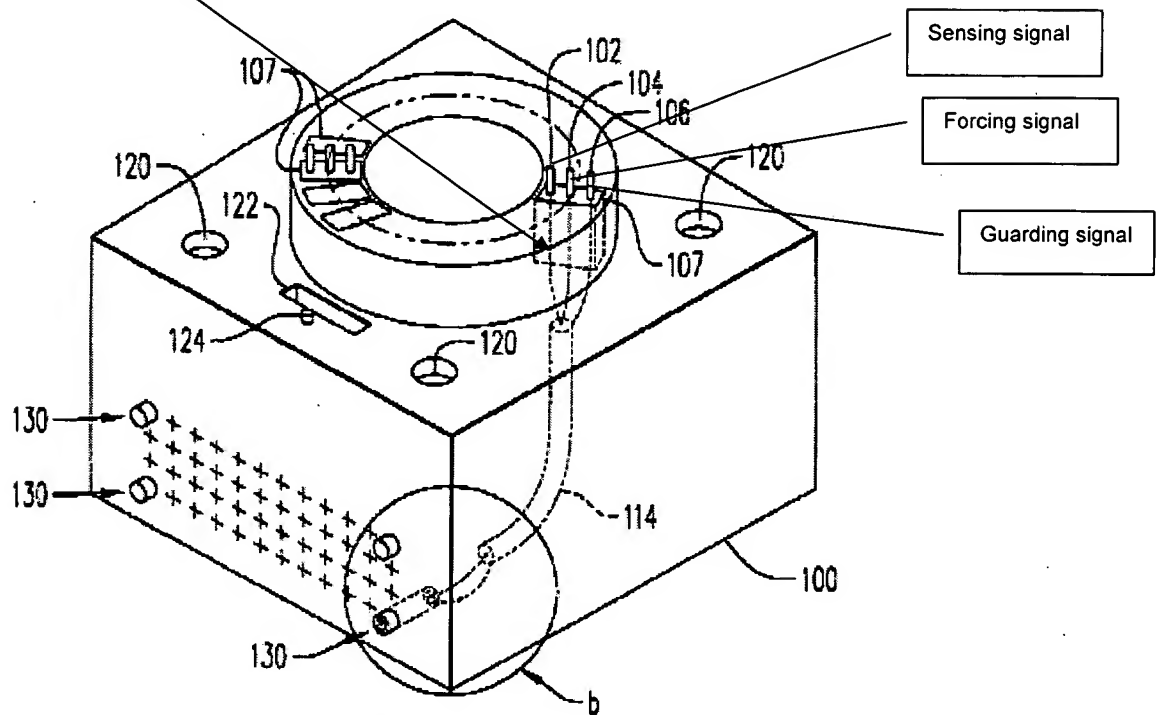


FIG. 1a

These wires (Wire for sensing a signal, wire for a forcing signal, and wire for a guarding signal) are each separately "connectable" to the electronic test equipment.

In response to applicant's argument that Goto does not disclose at least one of "a plurality of wires" for a guarding signal. Applicant is respectfully noted that the limitation in the claim is "at least one of", therefore 1 (one) adequately reads on the claim.

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies

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(i.e., mini-USB) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

In response to Applicant's argument that: "The Examiner's conclusory statements regarding "the principle of the cable" does not provide a rational (Rationale?) underpinning to support a conclusion of obviousness to modify Goto in view of VanDeusen".

Applicant is respectfully reminded that: "The rationale to modify or combine the prior art does not have to be expressly stated in the prior art; the rationale may be expressly or impliedly contained in the prior art or it may be reasoned from knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, established scientific principles, or legal precedent established by prior case law." (MPEP 2144). In this particular case, as examiner interpreted in the Office action: "In the alternative with respect to the 35 U.S.C 103(a), Goto et al. does not explicitly disclose outer metal coating and an insulating coating. VanDeusen discloses electrical cable and explicitly discloses metal coating (5) and insulating coating around metal coating (5) (Figure 1)." The outer metal coating and insulating is typical in, for example, coaxial cable.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

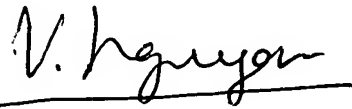
Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2234. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Nguyen", is written over a horizontal line.

Vincent Q. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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November 24, 2007